

IN THE CLAIMS:

The following is a listing of all of the claims in the application showing current changes and new claims being added.

Claim 1 (currently amended): A portable personal authentication apparatus configured portably, the apparatus including comprising:

built-in communication means wirelessly connectable to a public network; and reading means for reading at least one of a man's biological features, wherein personal authentication is performed on the basis of data read by the reading means as authentication data ~~being data the reading means read~~.

Claim 2 (currently amended): The portable personal authentication apparatus according to claim 1,

wherein the authentication is biometric authentication using at least one of a ~~man~~² man's fingerprint, voiceprint, retinaprint, irisprint, face, and signature, further wherein the reading means can read at least one of a ~~man~~² man's fingerprint, voiceprint, retinaprint, irisprint, face, and signature for the biometric authentication.

Claim 3 (original): The portable personal authentication apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the portable personal authentication apparatus is used for personal authentication in an electronic system which can be accessed by a user on the basis of personal authentication,

further wherein a user who intends to use the electronic system is permitted to access the electronic system on the basis of the authentication data read.

Claim 4 (original): The portable personal authentication apparatus according to claim 2, wherein the portable personal authentication apparatus is used for personal authentication in an electronic system which can be accessed by a user on the basis of personal authentication,

further wherein a user who intends to use the electronic system is permitted to access the electronic system on the basis of the authentication data read.

Claim 5 (original): The portable personal authentication apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the electronic system is an electronic commerce system in which E-cash is created by giving monetary value to electronic information flowing on a communication network and the settlement of business transactions is performed with this E-cash,

further wherein the portable personal authentication apparatus inputs authentication data for personal authentication required by the electronic commerce system, withdraws a predetermined amount of savings from a predetermined account at a financial institution, stores them in a storage section as E-cash, performs the settlement of the business transactions with the stored E-cash, and leaves the balance of the E-cash after the settlement and the use history of the E-cash in the storage section.

Claim 6 (original): The portable personal authentication apparatus according to claim 2,

wherein the electronic system is an electronic commerce system in which E-cash is created by giving monetary value to electronic information flowing on a communication network and the settlement of business transactions is performed with this E-cash,

further wherein the portable personal authentication apparatus inputs authentication data for personal authentication required by the electronic commerce system, withdraws a predetermined amount of savings from a predetermined account at a financial institution, stores them in a storage section as E-cash, performs the settlement of the business transactions with the stored E-cash, and leaves the balance of the E-cash after the settlement and the use history of the E-cash in the storage section.

Claim 7 (original): The portable personal authentication apparatus according to claim 3, wherein the electronic system is an electronic commerce system in which E-cash is created by giving monetary value to electronic information flowing on a communication network and the settlement of business transactions is performed with this E-cash,

further wherein the portable personal authentication apparatus inputs authentication data for personal authentication required by the electronic commerce system, withdraws a predetermined amount of savings from a predetermined account at a financial institution, stores them in a storage section as E-cash, performs the settlement of the business transactions with the stored E-cash, and leaves the balance of the E-cash after the settlement and the use history of the E-cash in the storage section.

Claim 8 (original): The portable personal authentication apparatus according to claim 1,

further including storing means for storing credit information, wherein the electronic system is an electronic commerce system in which settlement is performed with credit information,

further wherein the portable personal authentication apparatus inputs authentication data for personal authentication required by the electronic commerce system.

Claim 9 (original): The portable personal authentication apparatus according to claim 2,

further including storing means for storing credit information, wherein the electronic system is an electronic commerce system in which settlement is performed with credit information,

further wherein the portable personal authentication apparatus inputs authentication data for personal authentication required by the electronic commerce system.

Claim 10 (original): The portable personal authentication apparatus according to claim 3,

further including storing means for storing credit information, wherein the electronic system is an electronic commerce system in which settlement is performed with credit information,

further wherein the portable personal authentication apparatus inputs authentication data for personal authentication required by the electronic commerce system.

Claim 11 (original): The portable personal authentication apparatus according to claim 5, wherein the electronic commerce system is an automatic charge receiving system for automatically collecting a toll.

Claim 12 (original): The portable personal authentication apparatus according to claim 8, wherein the electronic commerce system is an automatic charge receiving system for automatically collecting a toll.

Claim 13 (original): The portable personal authentication apparatus according to claim 3, wherein the electronic system is a notifying system for giving urgent notification to a competent center in the case of an emergency having occurred, further wherein the portable personal authentication apparatus is used at least for notification of cancel given in the case of canceling the urgent notification, further wherein authentication data read by the portable personal authentication apparatus is sent to the competent center by the communication means in the case of giving the notification of cancel.

Claim 14 (original): The portable personal authentication apparatus according to claim 1, further including a PC-card slot, wherein one of the biological features in a fingerprint, further wherein user authentication is performed by inserting a PC card equipped with reading means for reading the fingerprint into the PC-card slot.

Claim 15 (original): The portable personal authentication apparatus according to claim 2, further including a PC-card slot, wherein one of the biological features is a fingerprint, further wherein user authentication is performed by inserting a PC card equipped with reading means for reading the fingerprint into the PC-card slot.

Claim 16 (original): The portable personal authentication apparatus according to claim 3, further including a PC-card slot, wherein one of the biological features is a fingerprint, further wherein user authentication is performed by inserting a PC card equipped with reading means for reading the fingerprint into the PC-card slot.

Claim 17 (original): The portable personal authentication apparatus according to claim 5, further including a PC-card slot, wherein one of the biological features is a fingerprint, further wherein user authentication is performed by inserting a PC card equipped with reading means for reading the fingerprint into the PC-card slot.

Claim 18 (original): The portable personal authentication apparatus according to claim 8, further including a PC-card slot, wherein one of the biological features is a fingerprint, further wherein user authentication is performed by inserting a PC card equipped with reading means for reading the fingerprint into the PC-card slot.

Claim 19 (original): The portable personal authentication apparatus according to claim 11, further including a PC-card slot, wherein one of the biological features is a

fingerprint, further wherein user authentication is performed by inserting a PC card equipped with reading means for reading the fingerprint into the PC-card slot.

Claim 20 (original): The portable personal authentication apparatus according to claim 13, further including a PC-card slot, wherein one of the biological features is a fingerprint, further wherein user authentication is performed by inserting a PC card equipped with reading means for reading the fingerprint into the PC-card slot.

Claim 21 (original): An electronic system to which access is permitted by the portable personal authentication apparatus according to claim 3.

Claim 22 (original): An electronic system to which access is permitted by the portable personal authentication apparatus according to claim 5.

Claim 23 (original): An electronic system to which access is permitted by the portable personal authentication apparatus according to claim 8.

Claim 24 (original): An electronic system to which access is permitted by the portable personal authentication apparatus according to claim 11.

Claim 25 (original): An electronic system to which access is permitted by the portable personal authentication apparatus according to claim 13.

Claim 26 (original): An electronic system to which access is permitted by the portable personal authentication apparatus according to claim 14.

Claim 27 (new): The apparatus as claimed in claim 1, further comprising:
storage, and
registering means for registering in the storage at least one biological feature read by the reading means.

Claim 28 (new): The portable personal authentication apparatus as claimed in claim 27, further comprising comparing means for comparing the registered authentication data with authentication data currently read by the reading means.

Claim 29 (new): The portable personal authentication apparatus as claimed in claim 27, wherein the comparing means compares the registered authentication data with authentication data currently read by the reading means in accordance with predetermined comparison criteria.

Claim 30 (new): The portable personal authentication apparatus as claimed in claim 1, further comprising sending means for sending the authentication data to an authentication server using the communication means to provide authentication in the authentication server.

Claim 31 (new): The portable personal authentication apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the built-in communication means wirelessly connectable to a public network is used during performing the personal authentication.

Claim 32 (new): The portable personal authentication apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the built-in communication means comprises a cellular device.

Claim 33 (new): The portable personal authentication apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the built-in communication means is connectable to a network of cellular devices as the public network.

Claim 34 (new): The portable personal authentication apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the built-in communication means comprises a personal data assistant.

Claim 35 (new): The portable personal authentication apparatus as claimed in claim 3, wherein the electronic system is accessed by a user through the built-in communication means and the public network.

Claim 36 (new): A portable personal authentication apparatus configured so as to be portable, the apparatus comprising:

a built-in communication arrangement wirelessly connectable to a public network,

reading means for reading at least one of a man's biological features, personal authentication being performed on the basis of data read by the reading means as authentication data,

information storage,

registering means for registering in the information storage at least one of man's biological features read by the reading means, and

comparing means for comparing the registered authentication data with authentication data currently read by the reading means in accordance with predetermined criteria,

wherein the built-in communication means comprises a cellular device, and

wherein the built-in communication means is connectable to a network of cellular devices as the public network.

Claim 37 (new): The portable personal authentication apparatus as claimed in claim 36,

wherein the portable personal authentication apparatus is an electronic system which can be accessed by a user on the basis of personal authentication,

wherein a user who intends to use the electronic system is permitted to access the electronic system on the basis of the authentication data,

wherein the electronic system is accessed by the user through the built-in communication means and the public network,

wherein the electronic system is a notifying system for providing notification to a competent center in the case of an emergency having occurred,

wherein the portable personal authentication apparatus is used at least for notification of cancel given in the case of canceling the urgent notification, and wherein authentication data read by the portable personal authentication apparatus is sent to the competent center by the communication means when providing a cancel notification.